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APPROVAL OF UNDP ASSISTANCE TO AN INTERREGIONAL PROJECT OF THE ASIA AND PACIFIC REGION

IPF:(1992-96) $ 151 400 000
(RAS/93/G34) - Prevention and Management of Marine Pollution - East Asia Seas

Date of approval by the AC:[1/]	21 June 1993
Expected duration:	Five years
Proposed executing agency:	IMO
Government implementing agency:	Republic of Korea (TBD)
Proposed UNDP contribution:	$8 000 000 Source of funds: GEF
Total UNDP budget:	$8 000 000

Project background

Marine pollution in the heavily taxed East Asian Seas is the result of human activity both on land (sewage, industrial effluent, sediments, oil, hazardous wastes and agricultural wastes) and, to a lesser extent, at sea (marine transportation and offshore hydrocarbon exploration and production). On land, one is faced with rising population pressure, poverty and unwise natural resource management; at sea, increasingly frequent oil spills, offshore exploration, and intentional waste dumping give rise to increasingly dismal forecasts for the future conditions of the waters.

The main constraints to implementing solutions to these problems include insufficient political will and consensus; lack of trained personnel at the policy planning, and management levels; the absence of integration, coordination, and cooperation between agencies and governments; and insufficient funds or economic justifications for investment in appropriate technologies and other means to control pollution.

There are also technical problems requiring scien' 'fic solution/analysis and issues on common methodologies and standards for resolving some of the conflicts on environmental; quality which cut across political boundaries. There is, as yet, no harmonization of regulations on water quality in the region; therefore a regional approach is imperative to deal with institutional capacity to cope with the increasing coastal and marine pollution. A comprehensive picture of the state of the marine environment, a regional information network, and active participation therein are all lacking. Marine pollution management will require the creation of awareness of the importance of public involvement in the development and implementation of management measures, and the creation of sustainable financing to ensure long-term solutions.

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[1/] This Fact Sheet reflects the status of the project/revision at the time it was approved by the Action Committee; modifications to the project/revision may have occurred subsequently.

Description of project

The immediate objectives of the project are to: (a) develop policies, plans and programmes on control and management; (b) strengthen national and regional infrastructures and upgrade technical skills and management capabilities for the application of preventionand control of pollution and enhancement of marine environment overall; (c) establish appropriate financial instruments for long-term sustainability and self-reliance of national and regional efforts; and (d) select pilot demonstration sights in the East Asia Seas to show the possible approaches to the problems at hand.

Based upon the demonstration site lessons, each participating country can develop and adapt new marine pollution management strategies. Capacity will be built to sustain such initiatives as a regional monitoring and information network, standardization research methodologies, and the production of "State of the Marine Environment" reports. The practical orientation of training, based on current marine pollution management needs, and experiences at the demonstration sites focusing respectively on mitigation, prevention and oil spill response, will promote a more effective approach to marine pollution management. Representation of the private sector on the Steering Committee and analysis of specific financing options will give the private sector a significant presence in the project; and a resource economist and other economics experts will be employed to integrate economic feasibility and sustainability.

Inputs

UNDP will provide one programme manager, three technical experts including resource economist, legal specialist and data/information specialist, and three national sub-project site managers; international consultants including coastal zone planners, oil spill, legal, GIS; subcontracts for public education/information activities to be undertaken by NGOs or Government agencies; training re: compliance with international conventions such as MARPOL, London Convention and Oil Spill Response by IMO; and for in-country and regional training on coastal planning, GIS, water quality measurements, etc., and exchanges; expendable equipment including computer software; lab equipment such as glass and plastic chemicals and sample bottles and chemicals for analytical sampling, aerial photos and training materials; and nonexpendable equipment including water samplers, measurement & Laboratory equipment such as flurometers, gas chromotograph, spectrophotometer, analyzers, computers, facsimile machines.

Financial data

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Personnel	4 720 000
Subcontract	500 000
Training	1 200 000
Equipment	800 000
Overhead costs	480 000
Miscellaneous	300 000
Total	8 000 000

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